

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS, COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS IN
ASCENDING ORDER WITH STATUS INDICATOR**

Please amend the following claims as indicated.

1. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint-pen ink composition comprising at least a colorant, an solvent consisting essentially of an organic solvent, as a main solvent whose vapor pressure is about 665 to 6650Pa (5.0 to 50 mmHg) (20°C) and a shear-viscosity reducing agent,
wherein said solvent comprises not less than 50% by weight of the organic solvent,
and
wherein said organic solvent has a vapor pressure of about 665 to 6650Pa (5.0 to 50 mmHg) and is one or more solvents selected from the group consisting of aliphatic monohydric alcohols and glycol aliphatic ethers.

2. (Canceled).

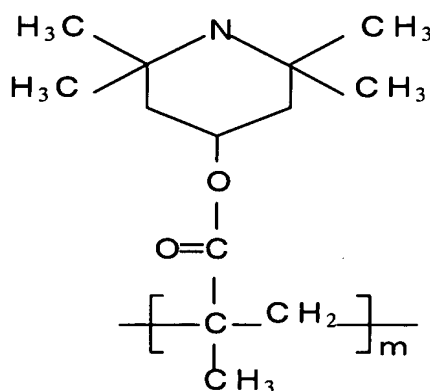
3. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint-pen ink composition according to Claim 2 wherein said organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of n-propyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol and propylene glycol monomethyl ether.

4. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint-pen ink composition according to Claim 1 wherein the ink viscosity at the shear speed of ~~3.84S⁻¹~~ 3.84 s⁻¹ is not less than about 10 mPa•s(20°C) and the shear-viscosity reduction index is about 0.3 to 0.99.[[.]]

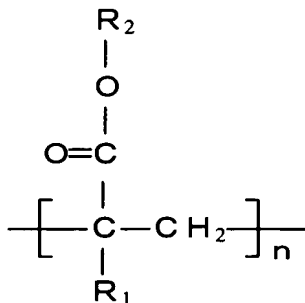
5. (Original) A ballpoint-pen ink composition according to Claim 4 wherein the shear-viscosity reduction index is about 0.5 to 0.99.

6. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint-pen ink composition according to Claim 1 wherein said shear-viscosity reducing agent is selected from non crosslinked acrylic copolymers consisting essentially of polymeric chain units represented by Formula (1) and by Formula (2) respectively:

(Formula 1)



(Formula 2)

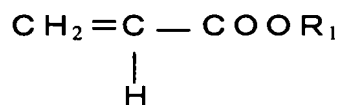


wherein R₁ is an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, R₂ is an alkyl group having 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and m and n represent polymerization degrees of thousands to hundred thousands.

7. (Currently Amended) A ballpoint-pen ink composition according to Claim 1

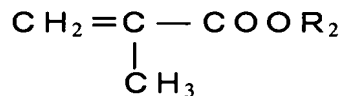
wherein said shear-viscosity reducing agent is selected from non-crosslinked acrylic copolymers of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid with acrylates represented by Formula (3) or methacrylates ~~reprensented~~ represented by Formula (4):

(Formula 3)



[[[]]]wherein R₁ is an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms[[[]]]

(Formula 4)



[[[]]]wherein R₂ is an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms[[[]]].